

An Examiner is required to consider all citations submitted in accordance with the Rules and to initial the same on the provided Form PTO-1449. See MPEP § 609(III)(C)(2). Toward this end, a copy of the previously submitted Form PTO-1449 is attached for initialing by the Examiner of each citation.

That the Examiner must consider such references as well as initial each cited prior art reference on the submitted Form PTO-1449 is not seen by the undersigned as being discretionary with the Examiner. See MPEP § 609(III)(C)(2) and MPEP § 609(D).

It is respectfully requested that the September 30, 2002 Form PTO-1449 be initialed as evidencing that the Examiner has indeed considered the subject citations.

This Request for Continued Examination (RCE) is also submitted in an abundance of caution to place certain new references before the Examiner for consideration. The references are referred to in the Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement presented herewith.

This application is believed to be in immediate condition for allowance, and action to that end is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: 11-26-02

By:   
Mark S. Matkin  
Reg. No. 32,268

Attachments: *Previously submitted 09/30/02 Supplemental IDS; Ex Post Declaration of Express Mailing of said IDS; postcard; RCE Transmittal of 09/30/02; Supplemental IDS (new art)*